

## Falcon Refinery

*Post-Hurricane Harvey condition of sediment at the Falcon Refinery Superfund site is consistent with historical site conditions that existed before the hurricane made landfall.*

On September 12, 2017, sediment samples were collected and analyzed for volatile organic compounds, semi-volatile organic compounds (including polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs)) to evaluate the potential effects from Hurricane Harvey in the wetland area of the Falcon Refinery site. The results indicate that the sediment analytes were similar to the samples collected for the Remedial Investigation (RI) in 2007 and 2013.

A Human Health Risk Assessment and a Screening Level Ecological Risk Assessment were completed for the site in 2016. The Human Health Risk found that the sediments did not pose an unacceptable risk to human health. The results for the Screening Level Risk Assessment indicated that aquatic life may be at risk due to contaminants of potential concern in sediment and surface water, and recommended that the wetland area should be carried forward to a Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment. The EPA is currently in the process of conducting the Baseline Ecological Risk Assessment for the wetland area.

The 104-acre Falcon Refinery site is located near Ingleside, Texas. The site consists of a now inactive refinery that had operated intermittently from 1980. When in operation the refinery's primary products consisted of naphtha, jet fuel, kerosene, diesel, and fuel oil. The refinery also transferred and stored vinyl acetate, a substance not excluded under the petroleum exclusion. Currently there is an active crude oil storage operation at the site. The site was added to the National Priorities List (NPL) in September 2011. The Potentially Responsible Parties are conducting a Removal Action to remove wastes from abandoned tanks, equipment, and piping. Investigations are underway to assess the nature and extent of contamination and to explore appropriate cleanup options for sediment and soil.

The site also will be evaluated during the Superfund Five-Year Review. EPA is responsible for reviewing Superfund remedial actions at least every five years where hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants will remain on site above levels that allow for unlimited use and unrestricted exposure. CERCLA also requires that EPA report to Congress regarding these sites. A Superfund Five-Year Review Report to Congress is prepared each fiscal year.